

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

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FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC 2090

INFO AMEMBASSY DOHA QATAR

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT KUWAIT

UNCLAS MANAMA 0519

CU FOR NEWBERRY

COMMERCE FOR DIBA/BIC HOSTLER

FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS : SCUL, BA

SUBJECT : URBAN PLANNING AND U.S. CULTURAL AND
ECONOMIC INTERESTS

REFERENCE : (A) MANAMA 0134

(B) MANAMA A-43, NOV 9, 1974

1. BAHRAIN SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS IS HOLDING MAJOR EXHIBITION
"ENGINEERING IN BAHRAIN" OCTOBER 18-24, 1975, FIRST OF ITS KIND
IN BAHRAIN. IN CONNECTION WITH EXHIBITION, SEMINAR ON
"ENGINEERING AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE GULF" IS BEING HELD
OCTOBER 19-21. SOCIETY HAS REQUESTED A DISTINGUISHED AMERICAN
ARCHITECT, MENTIONING OSCAR NEWMAN AS AN EXAMPLE, TO SPEAK AT
SEMINAR ON TOPIC OF "TOWN PLANNING FOR A DEVELOPING AREA".

2. SOCIETY HAS ALSO INDICATED IT WOULD WELCOME PRESENCE OF A
U.S. TRADE MISSION FOCUSING ON URBAN PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION
TECHNOLOGY IN CONJUNCTION WITH EXHIBITION AND IS WILLING TO
EXPLORE COORDINATING "SEMINAR CAPABILITIES" OF SUCH A MISSION
WITH THE SOMEWHAT MORE RIGIDLY STRUCTURED SEMINAR ALREADY
PLANNED.

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3. BAHRAIN'S MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MUNICIPALITIES, SHAIKH ABDULLAH BIN KHALID AL-KHALIFA, IS VISITING THE U.S. IN JUNE AS CU GRANTEE. HE IS HEAD OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY PLANNING AND HIS PROGRAM WILL FOCUS INTER-ALIA ON THIS RESPONSIBILITY.

4. COINCIDENCE OF HIS VISIT AND SUBSEQUENT EXHIBITION/SEMINAR WOULD APPEAR TO PRESENT IDEAL OPPORTUNITY FOR U.S. TO MAKE BOTH ITS CULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL PRESENCE FELT IN WHAT IS PROBABLY MOST DYNAMIC ASPECT OF BAHRAIN'S PRESENT DEVELOPMENT, PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION OF MODERN PHYSICAL COMMUNITY IN BAHRAIN.

5. REQUEST CU, COORDINATING WITH COMMERCE, RESPOND TO SOCIETY'S REQUEST BY PROVIDING TOP FLIGHT AMERICAN ARCHITECT AS SPEAKER UNDER CU AUSPICES. REQUEST COMMERCE, COORDINATING WITH CU, EXAMINE POSSIBILITIES OF COMBINING AN URBAN PLANNING/CONSTRUCTION TRADE MISSION VISIT TO BAHRAIN IN CONNECTION WITH EXHIBITION/SEMINAR. COMMERCE SHOULD GIVE EXHIBITION FURTHER PUBLICITY IN "COMMERCE TODAY", SINCE PRESENT HANDFUL OF U.S. EXHIBITORS INSUFFICIENTLY REPRESENT U.S. INTERESTS IN MARKET (WE UNDERSTAND OVER 200 BRITISH FIRMS WILL BE REPRESENTED).

6. AS THERE IS SIGNIFICANT INTEREST IN BAHRAIN IN AMERICAN TECHNOLOGY FOR URBAN PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT, WE ASSUME WEALTHIER GULF STATES SUCH AS QATAR AND KUWAIT PRESENT EVEN GREATER POTENTIAL. WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY KUWAIT AND EMBASSY DOHA COMMENTS ON POSSIBILITY UTILIZING REQUESTED SPEAKER AND TRADE MISSION IN KUWAIT AND QATAR AS WELL.

7. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO PASS THIS MESSAGE TO OTHER GULF POSTS FOR COMMENT.
TWINAM

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